Listing of Claims:

1-14 (cancelled).

15 (amended). A pharmaceutical composition intended for topical use, which composition is in the form of an opaque emulsion-gel and which composition comprises
(a) 0.1 ~~0.02~~-0.4% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium salt,
(b) at least 50% (w/w) of water,
(c) 0-30% (w/w) of at least one C_2-C_4-alkanol,
(d) 3-20% (w/w) of a glycol solvent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and polyethylene glycol (200-20000),
(e) 0.2-3% (w/w) of at least one gelling agent selected from the group consisting of carbomers,
(f) 2-8% (w/w) of at least one lipid forming the oily phase of the emulsion-gel,
(g) 1-5% (w/w) of at least one non-ionic surfactant, and
(h) a basic agent selected from the group consisting of ammonia, sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide to adjust the pH of the total composition to 6.5-8;
with the *proviso* that said composition is devoid of an antifungal drug.

16 (amended). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises
(a) 0.1 ~~0.05~~-0.3% of diclofenac sodium salt,
(b) 60-92% of water,
(c) 0-25% of ethanol, isopropanol, or mixtures thereof,
(d) 3-20% of propylene glycol,
(e) 0.3-2% of at least one gelling agent selected from the group consisting of carbomers,
(f) 3-7% of at least one lipid forming the fatty phase of the emulsion-gel,
(g) 1-3% of at least one non-ionic surfactant, and
(h) ammonia to adjust the pH of the total composition to 6.5-8.

17 (amended). A pharmaceutical composition intended for topical use, which composition is in the form of an opaque emulsion-gel and which composition consists essentially of
(a) 0.1 ~~0.02~~-0.4% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium salt,
(b) at least 50% (w/w) of water,
(c) 0-30% (w/w) of at least one C_2-C_4-alkanol,

(d) 3-20% (w/w) of a glycol solvent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and polyethylene glycol (200-20000),
(e) 0.2-3% (w/w) of at least one gelling agent selected from the group consisting of carbomers,
(f) 2-8% (w/w) of at least one lipid forming the oily phase of the emulsion-gel,
(g) 1-5% (w/w) of at least one non-ionic surfactant, and
(h) a basic agent selected from the group consisting of ammonia, sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide to adjust the pH of the total composition to 6.5-8.

18 (amended). A composition according to claim 17, which consists essentially of
(a) 0.1 ~~0.05~~-0.3% of diclofenac sodium salt,
(b) 60-92% of water,
(c) 0-25% of ethanol, isopropanol, or mixtures thereof,
(d) 3-20% of propylene glycol,
(e) 0.3-2% of at least one gelling agent selected from the group consisting of carbomers,
(f) 3-7% of at least one lipid forming the fatty phase of the emulsion-gel,
(g) 1-3% of at least one non-ionic surfactant, and
(h) ammonia to adjust the pH of the total composition to 6.5-8.

19 (amended). A pharmaceutical intended for topical use, which composition is in the form of an opaque emulsion-gel and which composition consists of
(a) 0.1 ~~0.02~~-0.4% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium salt,
(b) at least 50% (w/w) of water,
(c) 0-30% (w/w) of at least one C_2-C_4-alkanol,
(d) 3-20% (w/w) of a glycol solvent selected from the group consisting of propylene glycol and polyethylene glycol (200-20000),
(e) 0.2-3% (w/w) of at least one gelling agent selected from the group consisting of carbomers,
(f) 2-8% (w/w) of at least one lipid forming the oily phase of the emulsion-gel,
(g) 1-5% (w/w) of at least one non-ionic surfactant, and
(h) a basic agent selected from the group consisting of ammonia, sodium hydroxide and potassium hydroxide to adjust the pH of the total composition to 6.5-8.

20 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15 wherein the polyethylene glycol (200-20000) usable as component (d) is selected from polyethylene glycol (200-1000).

21 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises (c) in an amount of from 5 up to 25% and (d) in an amount of from 3 up to 7% of the total composition.

22 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises (c) in an amount of from 0 up to 5% and (d) in an amount from 3 up to 20% of total composition.

23 (previously presented.: A composition according to claim 15, which comprises (c) in an amount of from 0 up to 5% and (d) in an amount from 3 up to 7% of total composition.

24 (cancelled)

25 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises as C_2-C_4-alkanol (c) isopropanol.

26 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises as gelling agent (e) carbomer 980, carbomer 940, carbomer 981, carbomer 941, carbomer 974, carbomer 934, carbomer 910, or a mixture of any of said carbomers.

27 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises as lipid (f) either a mixture of paraffin and C_6-C_{12}-alkanoic acid C_{12}-C_{18}-alkyl esters, or a mixture of isopropyl myristate and C_6-C_{12}-alkanoic acid C_{12}-C_{18}-alkyl esters.

28 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 21, which comprises as lipid (f) isopropyl myristate.

29 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which comprises as non-ionic surfactant (g) a polyoxyethylene (10-30) fatty alcohol ether.

30 (previously presented). A composition according to claim 15, which is devoid of a chemical stabilizer.

31 (previously presented). A pharmaceutical composition in the form of an emulsion-gel for topical use consisting essentially of:
(a) 0.1% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium

(b) 60-92% of water,

(c) 0-25% of ethanol, isopropanol, or mixtures thereof,

(d) 3-20% of propylene glycol,

(e) 0.3-2% of at least one gelling agent selected from the group consisting of carbomers,

(f) 3-7% of at least one lipid forming the fatty phase of the emulsion-gel,

(g) 1-3% of at least one non-ionic surfactant, and

(h) ammonia to adjust the pH of the total composition to 6.5-8.

32 (amended). A pharmaceutical topical use in the form of an emulsion gel consisting of:

(a) 0.1 ~~0.010~~% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium salt,

(b) 76.57% (w/w) of water,

(c) 10.0% (w/w) of isopropanol,

(d) 5.0% (w/w) of propylene glycol,

(e) 0.7% (w/w) of Carbomer 980,

(f') 2.5% (w/w) of liquid paraffin,

(f") 2.5% (w/w) of coco-caprylate/caprate,

(g) 2.0% (w/w) polyoxethylene-20-cetostearyl ether, and

(h) 0.63% (w/w) ammonia, concentrated solution in water.

33. (canceled)

34. (canceled)

35 (new). A pharmaceutical composition in the form of an emulsion gel for topical use consisting of:

(a) 0.10% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium salt,

(b) 74.9% (w/w) of water,

(d) 15.0% (w/w) of propylene glycol,

(e) 1.0% (w/w) of Carbomer 974P,

(f') 2.5% (w/w) of liquid paraffin,

(f") 2.5% (w/w) of coco-caprylate/caprate,

(g) 2.0% (w/w) polyoxethylene-20-cetostearyl ether,

(h) 1.5% (w/w) 30% aqueous NaOH solution, and

(i) 0.5% (w/w) benzyl alcohol.

36 (new). A pharmaceutical composition in the form of a sprayable emulsion gel consisting of:

(a) 0.10% (w/w) of diclofenac sodium salt,

(b) 86.68% (w/w) of water,

(d) 5.0% (w/w) of propylene glycol,

(e) 0.3% (w/w) of Carbomer 974P,

(f') 2.5% (w/w) of liquid paraffin,

(f") 2.5% (w/w) of coco-caprylate/caprate,

(g) 2.0% (w/w) polyoxethylene-20-cetostearyl ether,

(h) 0.42% (w/w) 30% aqueous NaOH solution, and

(i) 0.5% (w/w) benzyl alcohol.